

Library of Congress Report
ALA/ALCTS/CaMMS Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access
American Library Association 2016 Annual Meeting
Orlando

Submitted by Dave Reser, LC Liaison

This document covers only selected initiatives undertaken at the Library of Congress since the ALA 2016 Midwinter Meeting in Boston, with a focus on descriptive cataloging activities. A full document covering all LC activities (including cataloging topics related to subject analysis and classification) is available on the "LC at ALA" Website, URL <http://www.loc.gov/ala/>.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS EXHIBIT BOOTH

The Library of Congress Exhibit booth is no. 1917 in the Orange County Convention Center.

Significant Library-wide Personnel Changes

President Barack Obama's nomination of Dr. Carla D. Hayden to be the next Librarian of Congress was approved by the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration on Thursday, June 9, on a unanimous voice vote with 10 panel members present. The nomination now goes to the full Senate for its consideration. Timing of consideration by the Senate is unknown as of June 10.

Dr. Hayden, since 1993 the chief executive of the Enoch Pratt Free Library system in Baltimore and a former president of the American Library Association from 2003-2004, was nominated by the President on Feb. 24, 2016, following the retirement of former Librarian of Congress James H. Billington. Dr. Hayden answered questions for the committee on April 20 and has responded to additional questions from the committee subsequent to that hearing. If confirmed, Dr. Hayden will be the 14th Librarian of Congress and the first woman and first African American to hold the position.

Dr. Hayden received a B.A. from Roosevelt University and an M.A. and Ph. D. from the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago.

David S. Mao, Deputy Librarian of Congress, continues as acting Librarian of Congress.

Staffing and Personnel Changes in Acquisitions and Bibliographic Access (ABA)

Law Section Head **Gabe Horchler** retired Feb. 20, 2016, after 47 years of federal service, two in the U.S. Army and forty-five at the Library of Congress. An open posting to fill the Law Section Head position was announced in the spring of 2016. Interviews were underway as of June 10.

Loche McLean, Senior Library Information Systems Specialist in the Policy & Standards Division (PSD), retired at the end of April 2016 after more than 40 years of federal government service, mostly with the Cataloging Distribution Service at the Library of Congress. Loche was instrumental in coordinating the effort to make most LC-produced cataloging documentation freely available as PDF files on the ABA web site.

The ABA Directorate has permission to fill approximately 30 vacancies from open postings—not limited to internal applicants—in 2015-16, and a few additional positions limited to internal applicants. Every division has permission to fill one or more vacancies, and the vacancies are announced on the USAJOBS web site and the Library's web site as the application periods open. Most of the positions to be filled are for professional librarians and may carry specific language requirements. For the first time in years, the Music Division (Collections and Services Directorate) is hiring in the area of bibliographic access. Upcoming vacancy announcements will recruit for a section head and two catalogers.

Federal Budget

The House and Senate appropriations committees have both approved fiscal 2017 Legislative Branch spending proposals. The House bill passed on June 10; no Senate floor action was planned as of June 10.

Cataloger's Desktop

Last year's work on *Cataloger's Desktop* reystemization has been receiving additional fine tuning. *Desktop* has been moved to the cloud, dramatically improving system reliability and response times. There have been two very visible changes over the past six months: (1) It is now possible for *Desktop* users to search and access *Classification Web* from within *Cataloger's Desktop*; (2) A "Find Similar" feature allows subscribers to refine and redirect their search results based on identifying metadata found in *Cataloger's Desktop* resources. Another search enhancement will be added in the coming months to allow users to see suggested search results as the query is being typed. This "type ahead" feature should speed up searches and improve search precision.

There have also been several enhancements to *Desktop's* security, including with a major upgrade to password security. LC staff continue to work with the *Desktop* contractor to improve system security to protect subscriber's search experience.

Suggestions for improving *Cataloger's Desktop* should be sent to Bruce Johnson at [<bjoh@loc.gov>](mailto:bjoh@loc.gov). Subscribe to the free *Cataloger's Desktop* discussion list at URL [<www.loc.gov/cds/desktop/ugroup.html>](http://www.loc.gov/cds/desktop/ugroup.html).

ALA-LC Romanization Tables

Ongoing exploration of additional enhancements to the Japanese table was supported by Library of Congress staff. A proposed new table for Deseret, the alphabet developed in the 19th century by the regents of the University of Deseret (now the University of Utah) as a more phonetically faithful alphabet for the English language, was received from Kjerste Christensen of Brigham Young University. The proposal was approved by CC:DA in February, 2016. A revision of the Mongolian table is being developed by Wayne Richter. No completion target date has been set.

All current ALA-LC romanization tables are available at URL [<www.loc.gov/catdir/cps/roman.html>](http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cps/roman.html), as well as in *Cataloger's Desktop*. Any questions about romanization table development should be directed to Bruce Johnson (Policy & Standards Division) at [<bjoh@loc.gov>](mailto:bjoh@loc.gov).

RDA 2016 Update

The 5th annual update to *Resource Description & Access* (RDA) was published in April 2016, containing the changes based on constituency proposals discussed at the 2015 meeting of the Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA (now renamed: RDA Steering Committee). To assist catalogers applying the new and revised instructions, the Policy & Standards Division (PSD) provided a summary table that highlights changes to RDA, available on the PSD web site, URL [<http://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/pdf/summary_rda_changes_2016.pdf>](http://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/pdf/summary_rda_changes_2016.pdf).

Library of Congress-Program for Cooperative Cataloging Policy Statements

The *RDA Toolkit* release in February 2016 contained 20 revised statements. The LC-PCC PSs included in the April 2016 release of the *RDA Toolkit* focused on the changes to RDA as a result of the constituency proposal process. The release included changes to 12 statements and 4 new statements; 2 statements were deleted. Summaries for each LC-PCC PS release are available at URL [<http://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/lcps_access.html>](http://www.loc.gov/aba/rda/lcps_access.html). The next release including LC-PCC PSs will be published on August 9, 2016.

Headings for Malaysian Jurisdictions, Features, Etc.

The project to update the name and subject authority records associated with place names in Malaysia (first announced at the 2014 Annual Conference) is complete. The University of California, San Diego, helped with the name authority updates. This project was a result of a change to RDA 16.2.2.9, which removed Malaysia from the list of federations that includes the United States, Canada, and others. The unqualified state name remains valid for descriptive use for the time period before September 16, 1963, when the current Malaysian federation was formed. For example, the creator of a 1934 compilation of states laws is **Kedah**, and the creator of a 2010 compilation of state laws is **Kedah (Malaysia)**. Local place names apply RDA 16.2.2.12, Alternative, which means that both the state and country name are used for the larger place as part of the preferred names of local places (e.g., **Bentong Town (Pahang, Malaysia)**). Subject headings are now qualified by the name of the state and country (e.g., **Pulai River (Johor, Malaysia)**).

Headings for Taiwanese Jurisdictions

The Library has begun a project to update geographic name headings for places in Taiwan to reflect current Board of Geographic Names (BGN) policy. Following RDA and LC-PCC PS for 16.2.2.3, a conventional name will be used if BGN list one. For example, **Taipei (Taiwan)** will remain as the preferred name for the capital city of Taiwan because it is the conventional name. Names that do not have a conventional form will use the BGN authorized form with pinyin romanization. For example, **Ma-kung shih (Taiwan)** will be changed to **Magong Shi (Taiwan)**. Taiwanese place names were excluded from the pinyin conversion project in 2000 because at the time, Wade-Giles romanization was used by BGN. BGN has used pinyin romanization since 2010. Subject headings for geographic features in Taiwan were updated in 2015. For example, **Tan-shui River (Taiwan)** was changed to **Danshui River (Taiwan)**.

LC's Integrated Library System

The Library is currently running the LC Integrated Library System (ILS) on Voyager 8.2.0.

The Library will introduce a new, responsive design in the LC Online Catalog at the ALA 2016 Annual Conference that enables optimal viewing and interaction across a wide range of devices. Responsive design provides easy reading and navigation with a minimum of resizing, panning, and scrolling, regardless of the size of the device, from desktop computer monitors to mobile phones, tablets, etc. The Library's Web metrics show that more and more users are accessing its Web properties from smart phones or tablets.

Responsive design is inherently accessible, that is, ADA-compliant, making the LC Online Catalog accessible to all users including those with disabilities.

Web metrics informed many of the decisions in the redesign. Standard Web features that are familiar to smart phone users are now in use in the OPAC. While the underlying functionality and indexing will not change, the new user interface will improve the usability of the catalog for all users, no matter how they access it.

The Library will make the new responsive design user interface available at catalog2.loc.gov in a beta release prior to the conference. The existing user interface will remain available at URL <http://catalog.loc.gov>. In August the Library will move the new user interface into production at catalog.loc.gov and the old user interface will be deprecated and available for a month at catalog2.loc.gov. The Library encourages users to try the new design and provide feedback to ils@loc.gov.

The new design allows much more flexibility in the design and enables the Library to add functionality, such as integration with the Library's openURL resolver, [FindIt!](#) Library developers have added new functionality such as "Cite Record," which provides easy copy and paste of citations into

bibliographies, and the ability to view and save bibliographic records in XML and MODS. The new design also provides better information security for patrons requesting materials from the Library's stacks.

Bibliographic Framework Initiative (BIBFRAME)

This initiative is an investigation of the emerging Linked Data environment for sharing of bibliographic descriptions that currently use the MARC Format. Documentation of the project is available from the BIBFRAME web site, URL <<http://www.loc.gov/bibframe>>. In 2015, the Library of Congress continued development of the Bibliographic Framework model and vocabulary maintaining a stable version of the vocabulary and data entry editing tools, and transformation tools that converts MARC records to BIBFRAME descriptions. These were updated and combined with other new components to support a BIBFRAME Pilot that enabled input of native BIBFRAME descriptions by 44 catalogers beginning in late September 2015. The Pilot officially ended March 2016, with an extension until July 2016 for some formats, notably images. The Pilot used the BIBFRAME Vocabulary 1.0 and covered materials including monograph sound recording, music, maps, DVD, CD-ROM, visual image, and others. The following tools and components were used for the Pilot:

BIBFRAME Editor (BFE). The BIBFRAME Editor was integrated with profiles provided by the Profile Editor. Lookups and type-aheads were also developed for resources within id.loc.gov that were needed by the Editor. The enhanced BIBFRAME Editor was released on GitHub, UJRL <<https://github.com/lcnetdev/bfe>>.

BIBFRAME Profile Editor. A BIBFRAME Profile Editor, which was needed to make the BFE flexible for use with different forms of material, was used for creation and editing of BIBFRAME profiles for use with the BFE in support of the BIBFRAME Pilot. It is available from GitHub, URL <<https://github.com/lcnetdev/profile-edit>>.

BIBFRAME Vocabulary 2.0 released. Based on experience of the last two years coming from the BIBFRAME listserv, the comments from the GitHub site for the conversion programs, expert advice, the Pilot experience, and comments from a Program for Cooperative Cataloging task group, the vocabulary was redeveloped and published as 2.0 in April 2016.

BIBFRAME infrastructure. In 2015 NDMSO began the process of revamping servers and systems to handle new traffic loads anticipated for linked data resolution, label lookup, and other services related to the BIBFRAME project and the LC Linked Data Service (LDS), *id.loc.gov*. Installation of an upgrade to MarkLogic (the platform used for BIBFRAME and LDS), new virtual servers, and additional storage continued through the first half of 2016.

LC Linked Data Service (ID) <*id.loc.gov*>. ID makes vocabularies available in RDF and other semantic-oriented formats. NDMSO leveraged the system, which averages over 300,000 page view and machine-only visits per day, to support the BIBFRAME Pilot. In May 2016 new batch downloads of the RDF Name Authority File and LCSH were made available.